

Sub 03

Anne Glancy

From: CorporateSupport.Unit <CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie>
Sent: Monday 26 July 2021 11:16
To: cdp
Cc: CorporateSupport.Unit
Subject: EXTERNAL - FW: EIS 21/256 Material alterations to the Draft Longford County Development Plan 2021-2027
Attachments: 21_256 Material Alterations to the Draft Longford CDP.pdf

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Dear Anne,

Please see attached response from your GSI Division in the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications.

Kind regards
Eric



From: cdp [mailto:cdp@longfordcoco.ie]
Sent: 12 July 2021 11:53
Cc: Anne Glancy
Subject: Material Alterations to the Draft Longford County Development Plan 2021-2027

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To: Prescribed Bodies
Environmental Bodies
Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government
Office of the Planning Regulator
An Bord Pleanála
Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly
North Western Regional Assembly
Adjoining Local Authorities
Longford Local Community Development Committee

A Chara,

For your attention, please see the attached notice which was published in the Longford Leader dated Friday 9th July 2021 in relation to the **Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Longford County Development Plan 2021 – 2027**.

Notice is hereby given that the Members of Longford County Council, having considered the Draft Longford County Development Plan 2021–2027 and the Chief Executive’s Report in respect of submissions received, have resolved in accordance with Section 12 (6) and (7) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), that the Draft Development Plan be amended. The proposed amendments constitute Material Alterations to the Draft Longford County Development Plan 2021-2027.

The likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the proposed Material Alterations have been assessed. In accordance with Section 12 of the Planning and Development Acts 2000 (as amended), Longford County Council has screened the Proposed Material Alterations and has determined that Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA) are required with respect to certain Proposed Material Alterations.

The proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Longford County Development Plan 2021-2027, together with associated Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA) Determinations and associated Reports on the likely significant effects of implementing the proposed material alterations will be available for inspection from **Monday 12th July 2021 until Tuesday 10th August 2021 inclusive** via the Council's website at the following link <https://www.longfordcoco.ie/services/planning/preparation-of-longford-cdp-2021-2027/longford-county-development-plan-2021-2027.html>

These documents may also be inspected at the offices of Longford County Council and Longford Libraries (see notice for details) and copies will be kept for inspection accordingly.

Submissions/Observations

Written submissions/observations with respect to the proposed Material Alterations; the associated SEA Screening Determination and SEA Environmental Report; AA Screening Determination and AA Natura Impact Report can be made up until **4.00pm on Tuesday 10th August 2021** and will be taken into consideration before the making of the Longford County Development Plan 2021-2027.

Submissions/observations can be made as follows:

Online: www.longfordcoco.ie/cdp

Email: cdp@longfordcoco.ie

Hard copy: Senior Administrative Officer, Draft County Development Plan, Forward Planning Unit, Longford County Council, Áras An Chontae, Great Water Street, Longford, N39 NH56.

Kind Regards,

Anne Glancy

Senior Administrative Officer

Forward Planning Unit

Planning Department

Longford County Council

Great Water Street

Longford

N39 NH56

Web: <http://www.longfordcoco.ie>



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Tá an t-eolas sa ríomhphost seo, agus in aon cheangaltán leis, faoi phribhléid agus faoi rún agus le h-aghaidh an seolaí amháin. D'fhéadfadh ábhar an seoladh seo bheith faoi phribhléid proifisiúnta nó dlíthiúil. Mura tusa an seolaí a bhí beartaithe leis an ríomhphost seo a fháil, tá cosc air, nó aon chuid de, a úsáid, a chóipeáil, nó a scaoileadh. Má tháinig sé chugat de bharr dearmad, téigh i dteagmháil leis an seoltóir agus scríob an t-ábhar ó do ríomhaire le do thoil.

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Tá eolas sa teachtaireacht leictreonach seo (agus b'fhéidir sa chomhaid ceangailte leis) a d'fhéadfadh bheith príobháideach nó faoi rún. Is le h-aghaidh an duine/na ndaoine nó le h-aghaidh an aonáin atá ainmnithe thuas agus le haghaidh an duine/na ndaoine sin amháin atá an t-eolas. Murab ionann tusa agus an té a bhfuil an teachtaireacht ceaptha dó bíodh a fhios agat nach gceadaítear nochtadh, cóipeáil, scaipeadh nó úsáid an eolais agus/nó an chomhaid seo. Más trí earráid a fuair tú an teachtaireacht leictreonach seo cuir, más é do thoil é, an té ar sheol an teachtaireacht ar an eolas láithreach. Deimhnítear leis seo freisin nár aims odh víreas sa phost seo tar éis a scanadh.



Longford County Council
Forward Planning Unit
Áras An Chontae
Longford, N39 NH56

22 July 2021

Re: Material Alterations to the Draft Longford County Development Plan 2021-2027
Your Ref: n/a
Our Ref: 21/256 [cf.20/263]

Dear Sir/Madam,

Geological Survey Ireland is the national earth science agency and is a division of the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications. We provide independent geological information and advice and gather various data for that purpose. Please see our [website](#) for data availability. We recommend using these various data sets, when conducting the EIAR, SEA, planning and scoping processes. Use of our data or maps should be attributed correctly to 'Geological Survey Ireland'.

With reference to your letter received on the 12 July 2021, concerning the Material Alterations to the Draft Longford County Development Plan 2021-2027, Geological Survey Ireland would like to make the following comments.

Geoheritage

In Chapter 12: Natural Heritage and Environment, Section 12.6 'Geological Sites', we acknowledge the addition of the text clarifying the previous status of the 8 sites rejected as county geological sites.

Proposed Amendment CH 12.8		
Section	Heading	Page no.
12.6	Geological Sites	336

Insert the text into Section '12.6 Geological Sites' as follows:

An audit of Geological Heritage sites in County Longford confirmed 15 no. County Geological Sites (CGS)₂ and recommended the removal of 8 no. geological sites from the list of the County Geological Sites identified in the County Development Plan 2015-2021). The 8 no. geological sites recommended for removal are as follows:

- 1. Ardnacassagh Quarry*
- 2. Ballinamuck unconformity*
- 3. Carrickateane Quarry*
- 4. Coolcor Quarry*
- 5. Esker North townland*
- 6. Garrycam*
- 7. Kilcoursey Quarry*
- 8. Terlicken*

While the 8 sites were included in the previous CDP 2015-2021, they had not been audited and were based on a preliminary 'master list' of CGS for the County. During the Longford County Geological Heritage Audit 2015 the sites listed below were assessed as being unsuitable for the CGS status and were listed as rejected in Appendix 4 of the Geological Heritage of County Longford report.



We welcome the inclusion of county geological sites within Wind Energy - County Policy Objectives, Policy Objective CPO5.138 in Chapter 5: Transport, Infrastructure, Energy and Communications of the draft CDP.

Proposed Amendment CH 5.37		
Section	Heading	Page no.
5.8.1	Wind Energy	161

Amend the Policy Objective CPO5.138 and insert the following text:

Ensure that the assessment of wind energy development proposals will have regard to the following:

- *sensitivities of the county's landscapes;*
- *visual impact on protected views, prospects, scenic routes, as well as local visual impacts;*
- *impacts on nature conservation designations, archaeological areas, county geological sites and historic structures, public rights of way and walking routes;*

Culture and Tourism

We are pleased to see the inclusion of geology within Tourism Infrastructure and Visitor Services – County Policy Objectives, Policy Objective CPO 10.27 in Chapter 10 'Tourism' of the draft CDP.

Proposed Amendment CH 10.12		
Section	Heading	Page no.
10.7	Tourism Infrastructure and Visitor Services- CPO	293

Amend the Policy Objective CPO10.27 with the following additional text:

Facilitating the development of visitor infrastructure linked to natural, physical, geological and heritage environments, while ensuring that it does not detract from the status, quality and value of these environments.

Geothermal Energy

We welcome the addition of the text below in Section 5.8.4. 'Geothermal Energy'. We would like to clarify that there are two separate publications within the text below. 'An Assessment of Geothermal Energy for District Heating in Ireland' was published by Geological Survey Ireland, whilst the 'Geothermal Energy in Ireland- a roadmap for a policy and regulatory framework' was published simultaneously by the Department of Environment, Energy and Communications (DECC).

Proposed Amendment CH 5.39		
Section	Heading	Page no.
5.8.4	Geothermal Energy	164

Amend the Section 5.8.4 Geothermal Energy as follows:

Geothermal energy refers to heat energy stored in the ground. Deep geothermal energy can only be accessed through geological processes or by drilling through the surface. The second source of heat in the ground is from radiation from the sun and is regarded as stored energy, which stays relatively warm throughout the year and can be extracted using a ground source heat pump.

To support the increased use of geothermal energy for heat in Ireland, the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) have published An Assessment of Geothermal Energy for District Heating in Ireland a non-technical Roadmap for a Policy and Regulatory Framework and a mapping tool to identify and assess Geothermal Site Suitability - Geoenergy (gsi.ie)



Natural Resources (Minerals/Aggregates)

In Chapter 16 'Development Management Standards', Development Management Standards – Extractive Industry, we are pleased to see the inclusion of our publication the 'Geological Heritage Guidelines for the Extractive Industry' within DMS 16.175.

Proposed Amendment CH 16.12		
Section	Heading	Page no.
16.4.16.3	Extractive Industry	442

Amend DMS 16.175 as follows:

*Require that all extract industry development complies with the requirements of Section 261 and Section 261A of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), the Quarries and Ancillary Activities Guidelines 2004 or any updates thereof; ~~and~~ EPA Guidelines for Environmental Management in the Extractive Industry 2006 or any updates thereof and **Geological Heritage Guidelines for the Extractive Industry.***

I hope that these comments are of assistance, and if we can be of any further help, please do not hesitate to contact me Clare Glanville, or my colleague Trish Smullen at GSIPlanning@gsi.ie.

Yours sincerely,

Clare Glanville
Senior Geologist
Geological Survey Ireland